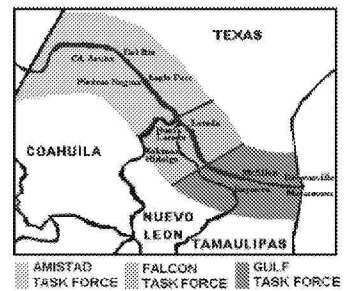




Mexico-United States Environmental

Regional Group

Tamaulipas - Nuevo León - Coahuila - Texas



Public Meeting of the Regional Working Group

Tamaulipas - Nuevo León - Coahuila - Texas

February 16, 2017

Laredo City Public Library (Texas)

Purpose of the meeting

To protect the environment and public health in the US-Mexico border region, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development, bringing together all Border 2020 leaders and stakeholders to agree binational environmental priorities and set the Regional Work Group's (RWG) agenda the 2017-2018 years.

The purpose of the RWG Annual Meeting was to present the progress of binational projects in the two-year Action Plan (2015-2016) and to agree on and identify priorities that can be included in the two-year Action Plan (2017-2018). Additionally, dialogue on the resources required to carry out these priorities. This will help as an opportunity for each State Secretariat to highlight the actions and achievements made, as well as to establish the priorities to be included in the next two-year Action Plan (2017-2018). The agenda also included the participation of the Local Leaders, in which the Co-Leaders expressed the actions implemented and achievements, as well as the priorities according to their geographical jurisdiction.



The agenda was taken under the following agenda:

Welcome and Presentations, Hosts

- Hon. Pete Saenz, Jr., Mayor, City of Laredo
- Councilperson Lic. Carmen Canturosas Villarreal, representing the Hon. C.P. Enrique Rivas, Mayor, City of Nuevo Laredo

Co State Presidents of the Regional Working Group

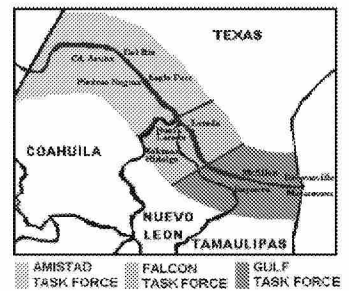
- Steve Niemeyer, representing Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Oscar Flores, representing Biol. Eglantina Canales, Secretary, Ministry of the Environment, Coahuila
- Ana Fernanda Hierro representing Roberto Russildi, Secretary, Secretariat for Sustainable Development, Nuevo León
- Ing. Gilberto Estrella, Secretary, Secretariat of Urban Development and Environment, Tamaulipas
- Arturo Arredondo representing Estavio Elizondo, Chairman of the Board, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas



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Co Federal Presidents of the Regional Working Group, Overview and Expectations of the Meeting

Sam Coleman, Acting Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Lic. Jesús González Macías, Federal Delegate, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Tamaulipas, through the "Go To Meeting" system.

Progress report of the Working Group and Regional Interest Matters

Summary of the Action Plan 2015-2016, and a brief description of special issues of regional interest.

Amistad Task Force, Progress Report

- On behalf of Hon. Ramsey English Cantú, Mayor, Eagle Pass, city official exposed the issue

Regional Points of Interest, Emerging Issues

- Biol. Carlos Flores, representing the Hon. Ana Gabriela Fernández Osuna, Mayor, Nava Coahuila

Falcón Task Force, Progress Report

- Hon. Judge Joe Rathmell, County Judge, Zapata Texas

Regional Points of Interest, Emerging Issues

- Hon. Juan Manuel Morton González, Mayor, Anáhuac Nuevo León

Gulf Task Force, Progress Report

- Hon. John Wood, Port of Brownsville Commissioner

Regional Points of Interest, Emerging Issues

- Hon. Jesús de la Garza Díaz del Guante, Mayor, Matamoros Tamaulipas

Presentation and Dialogue of the Priorities for the years 2017-2018

- Border 2020 Target Presentation.

Goal 1: Reduce Air Pollution

- Oscar Flores, representing Biol. Eglantina Canales, Secretary, Ministry of the Environment, Coahuila

Goal 2: Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

- Steve Niemeyer on behalf of Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., Chairman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Goal 3: Promote Materials Management, Waste Management, and Clean Sites

- Ana Fernanda Hierro, representing Mr. Roberto Russildi, Secretary, Secretariat for Sustainable Development, Nuevo León

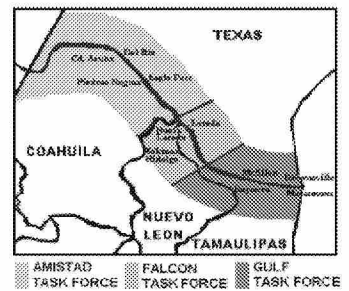




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Goal 4: Enhance Joint Preparedness for Environmental Response

- Ing. Gilberto Estrella, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Environment, Tamaulipas

Goal 5: Enhance Compliance Assurance and Environmental Stewardship

- Carlos Rincón took the floor to present the presentation of Lic. Víctor Cabrera Medrano, Delegate of PROFEPA, Nuevo León

Fundamental Strategies: Health and Environmental Education

Arturo Arredondo representing Estavio Elizondo, Chairman of the Board, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

Public Comments, Border 2020 Leadership Panel

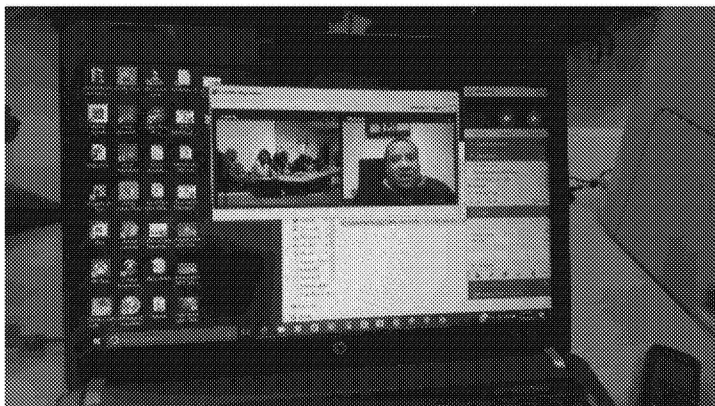


Plenary Session, Comments, assignments and next steps

Co-Federal President, Sam Coleman, Acting Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Final and Closing Comments

Federal President, Mr. Jesús González Macías, Federal Delegate, Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, Tamaulipas

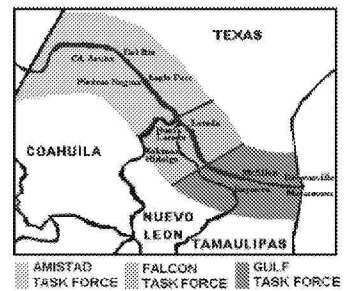




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Prior Meeting of Federal and State Co-Chairs

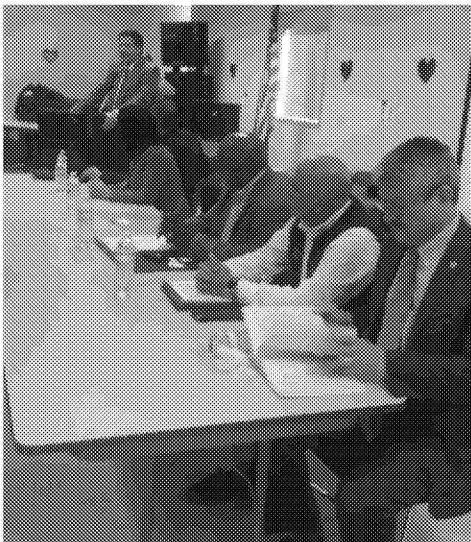


The previous day a meeting was held where the leaders discussed the strategies to be implemented in the next two years according to the Action Plan.

Also this day under the patronage of the City through the Department of Tourism was given a welcome dinner to colleagues from the Regional Working Group of the 4 States.



At the beginning of the GRT Public Meeting the Co Local Leaders made a welcome message to the attendees focused on the synergy of the Border 2020 Program and the actions that are implemented in the region.

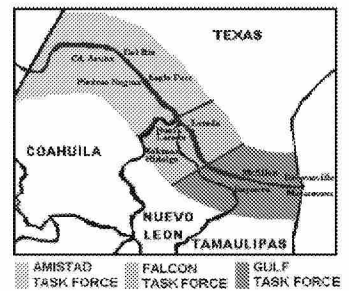




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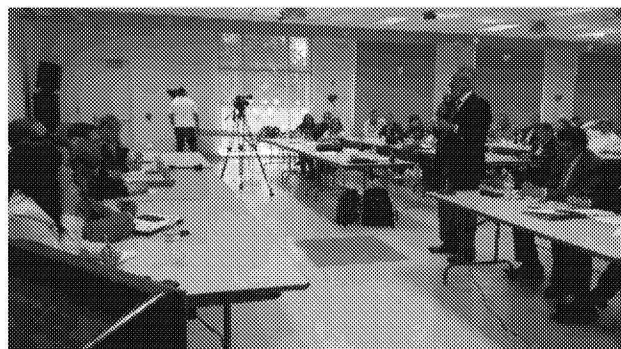
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At the outset, the Co-Presidencies in their participations provided a message regarding their participation in the Border 2020 program, their objectives and strategies in their Focused Entities and they generally discussed the commitment of their States in the sum of efforts for follow-up of this Binational effort.



The Co Leaders then presented the Progress Report of each of the Work Teams, the objectives achieved and the projects still in progress, as well as the Priorities in which strategies will be generated in Amistad, Falcon and Gulf.



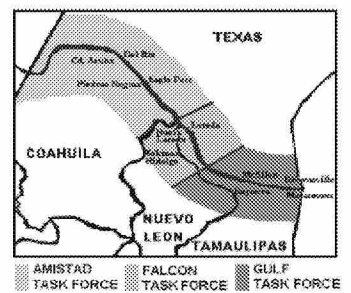
During the luncheon space, the cities of Laredo and Nuevo Laredo made a presentation regarding the actions they are doing in areas aligned with Border 2020, on the one hand, the city of Laredo presented its actions highlighting the issues in public health and the city of Nuevo Laredo, presented topics related to the management of hazardous and electronic waste, environmental education and reforestation. The speakers, Dr. Hector Gonzales (Director of the Department of Health) for Laredo and Mr. Luis Mata for Nuevo Laredo (Director of Environment).



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Subsequently the space for public comment was made, which included a panel with the leadership of the Regional Working Group of the 4 States. In this part of the agenda the attendees presented their concerns and proposals in which a direct dialogue with the leaders was generated. This stage was moderated by Arturo Blanco of the USEPA Region 6.



Images of the Meeting

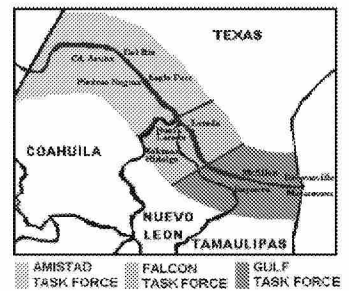




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The Moderator of the Meeting of the Regional Working Group was Ing. Joaquín Marrufo, Border 2020 Manager of the Border Ecological Cooperation Commission (BECC).

Finally the meeting was closed by the final comments and steps to be taken by our Co-Presidents, Jesus González Macías and Samuel Coleman.

Postcard that was sent to colleagues as support in the logistics of the event.

The meeting had an important representation of the frontier communities of the Work Teams, through officials and representatives of institutions and / or organizations.

Federal Government (U.S. EPA Region 6 and SEMARNAT Tamaulipas).

- State Governments of Nuevo León, Tamaulipas, Coahuila and Texas (TCEQ, SEDUMA, SEDESU, SEMA and Civil Protection).
- Mexican Consulates in border communities of Texas.
- Representatives of the Border Communities of Laredo, Brownsville, Del Rio, Eagle Pass, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Matamoros, Reynosa, Valle Hermoso, Miguel Aleman, Mier, Nuevo Laredo, Anáhuac, Piedras Negras, Acuña. INDEX Matamoros, COMAPA Nuevo Laredo, SAS Monterrey, CANACINTRA Nuevo Laredo, Animal Defense Nuevo Laredo, Civil Protection of several Municipalities, Fire Department of several Municipalities, UAT, Scouts of Mexico, CODEFRONT, SA Express News, SOS Texas, IMPLAN Matamoros
- Mayor of Laredo, County Judge of Zapata, Commissioner of Brownsville; Mayors of Matamoros, Valle Hermoso, Ciudad Mier and Anáhuac and members of the H. Cabildos.

Support was provided by the sponsors of the meeting, U.S. EPA Region 6, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Public Services and the Department of Environmental Services of the City of Laredo, Texas.

Without further ado, I remain at your service

Ing. Gustavo Pantoja Villarreal
BECC/COCEF Consultant
Border 2020